

BUSH VALLEY LANDFILL
Abingdon, Maryland
(National Priorities List Site)
MD-002

Site Location

Bush Valley Landfill (BVL) is an unlined landfill that occupies 16 acres of a 29-acre parcel near Abingdon, Harford County, Maryland. The site is located on Bush Valley Road, northeast of Abingdon, Maryland. A 120-acre tidal marsh, known as the Bush Declaration Natural Resource Management Area, is located northeast of the landfill.

Site History

The BVL site was owned and operated by the Harris and Braxton families from 1974 to 1982. In 1975, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene permitted the landfill to accept domestic residential waste, and the landfill was used by the Harford County Department of Public Works. Between 1975 and 1982, numerous inspections by the State and County indicated that the operators did not adhere to permit requirements. Both industrial and hazardous wastes were allowed into the landfill. The landfill was covered by soil in 1983 when the site was abandoned.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

In March of 1989, the site was listed on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Priorities List (NPL). In 1990, the EPA and Harford County agreed that Harford County would hire a contractor to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the site. The RI was completed in 1994 and the FS in 1995. EPA then issued a Proposed Plan to present the proposed remedial action to the community for comment.

Following the public comment period, the EPA issued the Record of Decision (ROD) in September 1995. The remedy specified in the ROD consists of a single barrier landfill cap with a storm water conveyance system and landfill gas management system; deed and access restrictions; and groundwater, surface water, sediment and landfill gas monitoring. In 1998, a Consent Decree between EPA and the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) for the Remedial Design (RD) and Remedial Action (RA) was issued.

Construction of the landfill cap was completed in August 2001 and monitoring was initiated. The remedy specified in the RD included a passive landfill gas management system with a provision to upgrade to an active landfill gas management system, if necessary. A performance evaluation, completed in December 2002, indicated that the passive landfill gas management system was inadequate to prevent off-site migration of subsurface landfill gases.

In 2004, Harford County selected an active landfill gas management design. The system consists of a series of gas extraction wells coupled with an active landfill gas extraction and flare system to capture and incinerate landfill gases. This system will effectively act as a vapor barrier to landfill gas migration. Construction of the gas extraction system was initiated in October 2004.

Waste Management Administration • Environmental Restoration & Redevelopment Program

Current Status

Harford County's contractor is in the construction phase of the active landfill gas management system. The system is scheduled for completion in spring 2005. A demonstration of the landfill gas extraction system is scheduled for April 2005.

Planned or Potential Future Action

Monitoring of groundwater, surface water, and landfill gas will continue in 2005.

Facility Contacts

<u>Contact Name</u>	<u>Contact Organization</u>	<u>Contact Telephone #</u>
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Site Repositories

Harford County Library
Bel Air Branch
100 Pennsylvania Avenue
Bel Air, MD 21014
410-638-3151